(a) whether it is a fact that according to measures announced in December, 1986, his Ministry has to set up a monitoring cell to monitor the prices of price decontrolled drugs and formulations; and

(b) if so, when was the monitoring cell set up and what are the names of price decontrolled drugs and formulation whose prices have gone up more than 30% from 1st December, 1987 to 31st December, 1988 along with percentage increase in each case?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Monitoring Cell was set up after the announcement of DPCO, 1987. As per the provisions of DPCO, 1987, the manufacturers of decontrolled drugs are free to revise the prices. However, the Government is keeping a watch and has intervened wherever found necessary. The required details in the question are quite voluminous and the time and effort required for collection of these will not be commensurate with the results likely to be achieved.

Representations for indentification of Category-II drugs

604. SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of Members of Parliament made representations to the Chairman of the Kelkar Committee for indentification of Category-II drugs;

(b) if so, what is the total number of representations received by the Chairman from Members of Parliament from the date of extention of term for rectification of anomalies upto the date of submission of supplementary report to the Government; and

(c) what are the details of each of those representations and what are the considered views of the committee on each?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (c) The details are given in the reply to Starred Question No. 77 for 27th February, 1989.

Recommendations on Category I drugs by the committee on Category II drugs

605. SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per policy statement, a Committee was appointed to identify drugs for Category-II of drugs Price Control Order;

(b) whether it is also a fact that this Committee made recommendations on Category I drugs also;

(c) whether it is also a fact that his Ministry have accepted those recommendations; and

(d) if so, the details of those recommendations and the basis on which such recommendations were made by this Committee?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (d) The required details are given in the reply to Starred Question No. 77 for 27th February, 1989.

Shifting of Category I drugs

606. SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per measures announced in December, 1986 it was spelt out that drugs needed for National Health Programmes would be covered under Category-I of Drugs Price Control Order;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government either price decontrolled these drugs or shifted for higher profit in January, 1989;

(c) if so, whether his Ministry has amended the Drug Policy; and

(d) if so, when and what are the details of amendments?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHIR J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (d) The details are given in the reply to Starred Question No. 77 for 27th February, 1989.

Price Control on Bulk Drugs

607. SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Kelkar Committee has recommended for further liberalisation of price control of drugs and medicines;

(b) if so, what is the total number of bulk drugs recommended for price decontrol by the committee in their supplementary report;

(c) what was the number of Bulk drugs under price control under DPCO, 1979 and what was the number in December, 1988;

(d) whether Kelkar Committee recommended for price control of any of price decontrolled drugs as per DPCO, 1987; and

(e) if so, the names of those drugs and how many have been included so far?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a), (b), (d) and (e) The details of major recommendations made by the Kelkar Committee in their Supplementary Report are given in the reply to Starrted Question No. 77 for 27th February, 1989.

(c) While under DPCO, 1979, the number of bulk drugs under Price Control was more than 350, it was 161 drugs under DPCO, 1987, in December, 1988. Out of this all vitamins as bulk drugs, except vitamin A and C, are exempt from price control as required under paragraph 3 of DPCO, 1987. Recently, 15 drugs have been exempted from price control under DPCO, 1987.

Encouragement to Indigenous Technology

608. SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Kelkar Committee made recommendations in regard to encouragement of indigenous technology in the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Committee recommended for incentive on such drugs;

(c) what were the number of drugs recommended for exemption from price control on the basis of development of indigenous technology;

(d) whether it is a fact that Kelkar Committee recommended for exemption of certain more drugs in the supplementary report on the same basis; and

(e) if so, what are the names of the drugs?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (e) The details are given in the reply to Starred Question No. 77 for 27th February, 1989.

Criteria for bringing Price Control Drugs to Price decontrolled category

609. SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the *Economic Times* on the 16th January, 1989 caption 'Kelkar panel for lifting price control on 13 drugs';

(b) if so, what were the criteria on which each of these drugs were recommended for price control in the original report;

(c) what are the basis on which these drugs were recommended for price decontrol in the supplementary report;